Dutch woman arrested after dead babies... pg 2

Colin heads towards
Bermuda pg 2

UNOCA organizes tremendous

Book Day tomorrow pg 5

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Saturday, August 7, 2010

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Caya G. F. Betico Croes 111 - Tel: 588-9517 - Fax: 588-9518 - E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com

FPNC and Post Aruba announce "Yes We Can" food drive



On Thursday, August 5, Jennifer Kock, Head Marketing & Philately for Aruba Post and Claudie Wegdam, Project Manager of Fundacion pa nos Comunidad -FPNC (Foundation for our Community)-announced a day dedicated to collecting foodstuffs for their warehouse, to be conducted in the parking lot of the Oranjestad branch of Post Aruba. The activity, part of FPNC's "Yes We Can - Food Drive", will take place on Saturday, August 28, from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Claudie explained that since its inception in October of 2009, "FPNC has been sustaining the more vulnerable groups in our community, some 100 families, with food baskets. Some are surviving on minimal salaries, others, for various and legitimate reasons, are unable to secure an income. We are also helping single mothers with a large number of children, some who are working for very low wages and some who are unable to work."

FPNC has been providing food baskets for these families on a weekly or monthly basis depending on their needs; the goal is to be able support 250

families with food baskets by the end of 2010.

Towards this goal, Post Aruba is assisting FPNC with this special day to collect donations of canned goods and other non-perishable foodstuffs. Canned fruits, vegetables, meats, and powdered milk are welcome as are dry foods such as rice, beans, pasta and other comestibles with a long shelf life. They ask please that no fresh foods requiring refrigeration be deposited during the food drive.

The afternoon at Post Aruba will include food and refreshment booths, music and fun activities for children; organizers invite the community to stop and enjoy the ambiance and something to eat and drink when they come to drop off their donation. Every penny spent will assist FPNC in replenishing their food bank.

Jennifer and Claudie remind the public that it is not acceptable for any person on Aruba to go hungry and ask for the enthusiastic cooperation that met their clothing and furniture drive in January in answering this basic human need.

by Rosalie Klein

Aruba Tourism Authority to launch a new image with a gala event in Oranjestad



Sjeidy Feliciano, Minister Oduber and Audrey Croes-Lacle.

Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber, joined Sjeidy Feliciano and Mario Arends of the Aruba Tourism Authority, ATA, in their offices on Thursday morning, August 5, to announce that a new Aruba marketing image will be unveiled during a festive event for all the community.

Joining the Minister and ATA representatives at their headquarters on L.G. Smith Boulevard was President of the Oranjestad merchants' association MAMBO, Audrey Croes-Lacle, as the gala launching is a cooperative effort between the ATA and the private sector.

The date set for Phase 1, which will immerse the public in all aspects of this new campaign, is Friday, August 20, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.. It will take place on the plaza where Playa Linda Department Store was formally located, in the heart of downtown Oranjestad. The event will be a festive street fair in ambiance, featuring food and refreshment booths, items for sale from local artisans, and music with popular island bands Youth Extreme and OREO.

During the press conference to announce the upcoming



Mario Arends

event, it was hinted the new marketing image that will be promulgated around the world will be more focused on Aruba's native character, art and traditions, emphasizing the island's assets beyond the beach and tourist hotels.

Audrey Croes-Lacle announced that MAMBO members are also participating by offering special prizes during a raffle drawing that will take place that evening. Beginning yesterday, participating shops in Oranjestad are rewarding patrons with a raffle ticket for every 25 Aruban florin spent;

20 prizes from MAMBO members will be awarded during the launch, plus two provided by the ATA.

ATA executives expressed they were extremely gratified with the enthusiasm with which Oranjestad vendors have cooperated in this joint venture. They urge islanders to attend this exciting event and become part of the process of enhancing Aruba's tourism product; island visitors are welcome and encouraged to join in the celebration.

by Rosalie Klein

* Bring this ad to receive a free orange juice

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Ice Cream Chocolate ^{or} Vanilla

All served with French Fries or Baked Potato on our famous HOT Stone * Plus 15% service charge. Not valid with other promotional offers or coupons.

US, UN declare Harakat-ul Jihad al-Islami a terrorist group

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States and the United Nations yesterday designated Pakistan's Harakat-ul Jihad al-Islami as a "Foreign Terrorist Organization" and targeted its commander for supporting acts of terrorism, the US Treasury Department said.

Mohammad Ilyas Kashmiri, who the United States labeled a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist," will have any of his assets frozen in US jurisdiction, and the move will also "prohibit US persons from engaging in any transactions with him."

The United Nations, according to the Treasury Department, has taken similar action against HUJI and Kashmiri.

As the militant group's leader, US officials said 46-year-old Kashmiri "provides support to Al-Qaeda operations, including logistical support for Al-Qaeda's terrorist attacks," the Treasury Department said in detailing deadly

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Ingrid Does Manager

Rosalinda Maduro Chandette Richardson Editors

Milton Jones
Project Coordinator & Graphic Designer

Rosalie Klein Reporter / Photographer

Yvonne Kromhout P.R., Sales & Marketing

> Yanis Garcia Sales

News Provider: AFP-Agence France Presse

Caya G. F. Betico Croes 111 Tel: 588-9517 - Fax: 588-9518

E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website:

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Mohammad Ilyas Kashmiri

assaults on Pakistani government personnel and facilities.

"In acting together, the United States and United Nations are today taking another important step in combating the threat that Al-Qaeda and its affiliated organizations pose to innocent people around the world," said Stuart Levey, the US under secretary for terrorism and financial intelligence.

HUJI's area of operation, said the Treasury Department, extends "throughout South Asia," but the arena for its terrorist activity remains mainly in India and Pakistan.

It also provided fighters to the Taliban fighting international forces in Afghanistan, and members of HUJI have trained in Al-Qaeda camps, said officials.

Among the attacks listed by the Treasury was a March 2006 suicide bombing on the US consulate in Karachi that killed four people, and injured 48 others.

Kashmiri was also accused of involvement in an attack on the Jyllands-Posten newspaper in Denmark, following uproar over cartoons depicting the Prophet Mohammed.

David Coleman Headley, the Chicago man accused of scouting for the deadly 2008 Mumbai siege and a plot to kill a Danish cartoonist, worked with HUJI on the Danish plot, according to charges unveiled in March

Pakistan floods affect 12 million

DURRANI MEHAR, Pakistan (AFP) - The worst floods in Pakistan's history have affected 12 million people, the government's disaster management agency said yesterday as the prime minister appealed for international help.

The number covered just Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab as figures from southern Sindh province had not yet come in, National Disaster Management Authority chief Nadeem Ahmad said.

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani appealed for immediate international help to cope with the disaster as authorities evacuated half a million people from risk areas in the south.

"I would ask international community to support and help Pakistan alleviate sufferings of flood-affected people," Gilani said.

"Pakistan has been hit by worst floods of its history," he said. "The loss of human lives and infrastructure has been colossal and real assessment of damages can only be done when water recedes."

The nearly two-week-old disaster across the largely im-

poverished country hard hit by Taliban-linked violence, washed away entire villages and killed at least 1,600, according to UN estimates.

Authorities in densely populated Sindh were busy evacuating villagers, warning that major floods in the next 48 hours threatened hundreds of communities in the fertile basin along the swollen Indus river.

The meteorological office issued a red alert overnight, warning of an "imminent" and "extreme" flood threat to Sindh, especially along the Indus, as flooding spread to Indian-held Kashmir, where more than 110 people have now died.

Torrential rains were also forecast in the northwestern province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where the disaster management authority warned people who have returned to partially damaged homes or those living along rivers to be careful.

The flooding has threatened electricity generation plants, forcing units to shut down in a country already suffering a crippling energy crisis.

Dutch woman arrested after dead babies found in suitcases

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) - A Dutch woman has been arrested for allegedly killing four of her babies over the last eight years, hiding their remains in suitcases in the attic, investigators said yesterday

"A 25-year-old woman from Nij Beets (in the northern Friesland province) was arrested on Wednesday ... on suspicion of infanticide," prosecuting official Annette Bronsvoort told a press conference.

Police subsequently found four suitcases, each containing the remains of a baby, in the attic of the house where the woman lived with her parents.

Police chief Wim van Essen said an investigation was star-

ted after it was reported to police that she had no children despite having been pregnant several times between 2002 and 2010. On being questioned, the woman first told police she had given her children up for adoption but could not show the documents to prove it -- leading to her arrest.

The woman then told police that she was "keeping them" in separate suitcases in the attic, which led to the house search.

Investigations showed that the four suitcases contained the remains of babies.

Further investigations "will have to determine the cause of death and also answer the question whether the babies were dead at birth."

Tropical Storm Colin heads towards Bermuda

MIAMI, Florida (AFP) - Tropical Storm Colin barreled towards Bermuda yesterday, with US forecasters saying the weather system could clip the island, or even pass directly over it, but was not likely to affect the US east coast.

At 11:00 am local time the storm was about 380 miles (615 kilometers) south-south-west of Bermuda, packing sustained winds of 45 miles (75 kilometers) a hour, the Miamibased National Hurricane Center said.

"The center of Colin is expected to pass just west of Bermuda on tonight or tomorrow night. However only a

slight deviation to the east of the forecast track could bring the center over the island," it said.

Forecasters said the system was expected to produce "coastal flooding and large and battering waves in Bermuda," and would drop between three to five inches of rain on the island

"Little change in strength is expected, with some strengthening forecast today," the center added.

Colin is the third tropical storm of the Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from June through the end of November

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WEB, NV Elmar and FCCA with another Luis Tromp wins two tickets donation of the Pilot Project II "Scoge pa Spaar" - Choose to Save

FAVI foundation receives two air conditioners for their Pimavera center



WEB Aruba N.V., as part of its social corporative responsibility and pilot project II "Scohe pa Spaar" tries to instill awareness among citizens to save on the consumption of water and electricity by using appliances

that consume less energy. This time, WEB made a donation to one of Aruba's social foundations; with the sponsorship of UNICON, WEB donated two inverter type air conditioners to FAVI, foundation for the visually impaired.

An inverter is an electrical device that converts direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC); the converted AC can be at any required voltage and frequency with the use of appropriate transformers,

switching, and control circuits.

The inverter tag found on some air conditioners signifies the ability of the unit to continuously regulate its thermal transfer flow by altering the



sponse to cooling demand.

Traditional reverse-cycle air conditioners use a compressor that is either working at maximum capacity switched off in order to regulate the temperature of the room. A thermostat is used to measure the ambient air temperature and switch the compressor on when the ambient air temperature is too far from the desired temperature.

Eliminating stop-start cycles increases efficiency, extends the life of components, and helps eliminate sharp fluctuations in the load the air conditioner places on the power supply. Ultimately this makes inverter air conditioners less prone to breakdowns, cheaper to run, and the outdoor compressor is generally quieter than a standard air conditioning unit's compressor.

The donation is the first phase of the project, soon WEB, Elmar and FCCA will install different appliances that help save water consumption at the foundation, enabling it to its reduce utilities expenses.

WEB Aruba N.V. informs the community that this week they finished the installation of appliances for saving on water and electricity consumption at 50 FCCA houses that were selected to participate in the pilot project II.

Now they will monitor the water and electricity consumption, and use the collected data for the expansion of the project in the near future. So, stay tuned for more project "Scohe pa Spaar.

For more details readers can visit the website www.webruba.con on the "Scoge pa Spaar" page which also includes an Interactive Home section where visitors can get tips in an innovative and interactive way how to save on their water and electricity consumption.

WEB: Water, Energy and Service. That is what we stand

with Cable T.V. Avatar Pay-Per-View campaign



Recently, SETAR N.V. selected Luis Tromp as the first winner of the Avatar Pay-Per-View campaign. The price: two ticket of for the Cinemas. His daughter, Suyenne Tromp collected the prize on his be-

SETAR N.V. has a special Avatar campaign. Everyone who views this film on the Cable T.V. Pay-Per View channel will receive two tickets for The Cinemas. Every week SETAR will select a winner.

How to win? Easy, just order the Avatar film on Cable TV's Pay-Per-View.

- 1. Press the 'Guide" button on the remote control
- 2. Search in the list of channels from 101 to 114 which movie you want to see, select the hour you want to see
- Use the "cursor" button to scroll the list, this will highlight when scrolling on the
 - Press Ok to select the

movie of your choice

- 5. A window will open with the note asking if this is the film of your choice
- **6.** Press "order" and enjoy your film.

Avatar is a 2009 American epic science fiction film written and directed by James Cameron. The film is set in 2154, when humans are mining a precious mineral called unobtanium on Pandora, a lush moon of a gas giant in the Alpha Centauri star system. The expansion of the mining colony threatens the continued existence of a local tribe of Na'vi—a humanoid species indigenous to Pandora. The film's title refers to the genetically engineered Na'vi-human hybrid bodies used by a team of researchers to interact with the natives of Pandora.

Photo shows Suyenne Tromp receiving her father's prize from the hands SETAR associate Maurice Kelly

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US, British ambassadors lose bet, take a dive

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan (AFP) – Ambassadors from the United States and Britain dived into a swimming pool fully clothed here as payment for a bet struck on the World Cup.

The pair had placed a private wager on the result of the first round match between the USA and England in South Africa with the loser pledging to take a swim wearing his suit.

After the match ended in a 1-1 draw the ambassadors of both countries were consigned to the same watery fate.

The two men paid off their respective part of the bet when they met in the Tajikistan capital last month, with a group of invited guests on hand to act as witnesses.

Unlike their clothes, the ambassadors' spirits were not dampened.



A must see while on Aruba Zeerover

Savaneta is the village where the Dutch first came on the island. The Spanish and Dutch came to land through a bay. These high rank officers called 'commandeurs' build their headquarters, so they called the bay Commandeursbaai. At the end of the 18th century the commandeurs moved to the Paardenbaai (Oranjestad). Years later the town near the Commandeursbaai was called Savaneta. Savaneta is papiamento for small meadow.

In savaneta there is a 'secret' place and not really mentioned for tourists. It is called Zeerover (pirate). You can have so much fun there it would be a crime not to tell you about it. As long as you keep it the way it is and not behave like tourists, we're pleased to show you this place. Zeerover is kind of a fish auction.

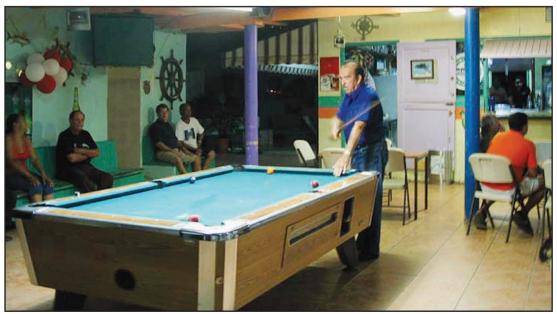
All day long, but especially at the end of the afternoon, the fisherman bring their catch of the day in: the fresh fish you can get, in sizes you can hardly imagine. Directly after the fish is brought ashore it gets cleaned, chopped to pieces and sold. It's often sold even before being caught.

Along the years Zeerover has become more then just a fisherman's spot: it has become a place to meet and talk things over for the local people. They talk a bit, drink their beer, eat some of the fresh fish, play some pool or domino. This is why Zeerover is so special: it's a local known place in Savaneta, not yet explored by tourists. That's also why we ask you: if you go there, please behave and keep it the way it is.











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UNOCA organizes tremendous Book Day tomorrow

Tomorrow August 15, UNOCA will have a tremendous book day. This will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the UNOCA office, situated at the Stadionweg 21.

UNOCA (Union di Organisacionnan Arubano— Union of Aruban Cultural Organizations) is a nongovernmental board, which advises the minister of culture on the allocation of subsidies for cultural and scientific projects.

UNOCA, always aware of it responsibilities in the community, organized this event to develop one's knowledge on cultivation of culture, by means of reading and transfer of knowledge thru books.

The goal of the book day is to stress the importance of reading for children and grown-ups, to stimulate more and more people to contribute to the growth and expansion of our local and Papiamento language publications.

Another aim of this day is to inform the community that Aruba has many published works, which became possible, thru the financial aid given by UNOCA. All these publications are available at UNOCA at very attractive prices. UNOCA wishes to introduce the Aruban community to



UNOCA by organizing such events as the Book Day.

The Book Day program is as follows:

10:00 a.m. U N O C A doors open to the public

10:30 a.m. Book reading and storytelling for children (Grown-ups are welcome)

11:30 a.m. Information given by UNOCA. There will be a Q&A section.

12:00 p.m. Break

12:30 p.m. Different local writers, who published their books with financial aid of UNOCA, will share their experiences and give tips. Also other professionals like graphic art designers and proof readers will be present to elab-

orate more on the different phases in the process of publishing a book.

13:30 p.m. Recital of poems.

14:00 p.m. Closure

There is also the opportunity to admire the two beautiful art collections in the exposition room; the STI-CUSA collection and the UNOCA collection. Entrance is FREE

For more information readers may contact Mrs. Magriet Lee-Tromp, UNOCA project coordinator at telephone 582-0108 or e-mail at mlee.unoca @gmail.com. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

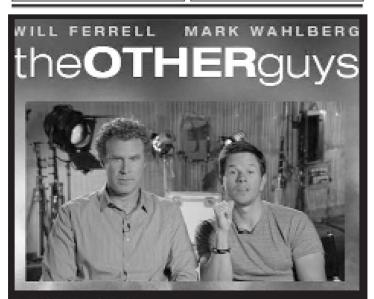






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THE OTHER GUYS (ACTION/ADVENTURE AND COMEDY) - Detective Allen Gamble is a forensic accountant who's more interested in paperwork than hitting the streets. Detective Terry Hoitz is a tough guy who has been stuck with Allen as his partner ever since an unfortunate run-in with Derek Jeter. Allen and Terry idolize the city's top cops, Danson and Highsmith, but when an opportunity arises for the Other Guys to step up, things don't quite go as planned.

Science/Tech Scientists find sea sponges share human genes

SYDNEY (AFP) – Mankind may be descended from apes but Australian scientists have found proof of links much closer to the sea floor, with a study revealing that sea sponges share almost 70 percent of human genes.

Genetic sequencing of sea sponges from the World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef showed the ancient marine animal shared many of its genes with humans, including a large number typically associated with disease and cancer.

Lead researcher Bernard Degnan, of the University of Queensland, said the findings "would shed light on a whole range of different things," and could lay the foundation for breakthroughs in cancer and stem cell research.

"Sponges have what's

(considered) the 'Holy Grail' of stem cells," Degnan told AFP.

Exploring the genetic function of sponge stem cells could provide "deep and important connections" to the genes that influenced human stem cell biology, he said.

"(It) might actually inform the way we think about our own stem cells and how we might be able to use them in future medical applications," he said.

The study -- published in the journal "Nature" this week -- is the result of more than five years of research by an international team of scientists.

It required the extraction of "really pure DNA" from sponge embryos and a complex sequencing exercise, Degnan said.

Rise of the 'Cyberchondriac'

Do you have a rash between your clavicles? A bump where there shouldn't be? Dry mouth, itchy throat, dandruff? If so, you may have looked online for the answer.

That's the conclusion of a new Harris Poll released this week, which found that more and more connected Americans are looking online for the answers to health-related questions: roughly 88 percent of all Americans who go online.

In raw numbers, over 175 million Americans viewed health information online, up from 154 million last year and 50 million American

adults in 1998.

The pollster surveyed 1,066 Americans between July 13 and 18, discovering that 81 percent of Americans have looked for health information online in the last month, with 17 percent doing it more than ten times. These "cyberchondriacs," Harris found, are evidence that more and more Americans are looking online for health information.

Harris also found that these health nuts are finding what they're looking for: only 9 percent say they haven't found the answers they seek.

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Adobe Preps Outof-Band Patches for Reader, Acrobat

Adobe has announced that they will issue updates to Reader and Acrobat during the week of August 16, 2010. The preliminary advisory says that the Windows, Mac and UNIX versions of 9.3.3 and Windows and Mac versions of 8.2.3 will be updated.

This will be an out-of-band release, off their usual schedule. It's likely that their schedule was thrown off by the revelation, by researcher Charlie Miller at Black Hat, of several vulnerabilities in Adobe Reader which he found by way of example in examining the analysis tool BitBlaze. These have received much attention, but there are no reports that they are yet being exploited in the wild.

US steps in as BlackBerry backlash spreads to Lebanon

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AFP) – Lebanon on Thursday became the latest Middle East state to voice security fears over BlackBerry smartphones, as the United States stepped in to the growing row over the popular devices.

Saudi Arabia is to suspend Blackberry services on Friday after the Canadian manufacturers failed to meet its demands, while the United Arab Emirates announced at the weekend that its own ban will take effect from October 11.

India is also mulling a similar move.

As the row spread, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said that the United States and the UAE would soon hold talks on the Gulf business hub's halting of BlackBerry messenger, web



Hillary Clinton

browsing and email services.

"We are taking time to consult and analyze the full the range of interests and issues at stake because we know that there is a legitimate security concern," Clinton told reporters in Washington.

But she said there was also a "legitimate right of free use and access" and added that the United States was also working with unspecified other countries on the issue.

The row centres on concerns that BlackBerry's encrypted services -- which involve data being routed through secure servers in Canada where manufacturer Research in Motion (RIM) is based -- could be used by militants or criminals.

Clinton's spokesman Philip Crowley told reporters later that Washington is "reaching out" to Saudi Arabia, India and other countries that have similar security concerns in a bid to find solutions.

HEALTH - LIVING

Prayer heals, study finds



WASHINGTON (AFP) -Prayer heals when it's closeup and personal, and there's a study to prove it.

It's not just any kind of prayer, but "proximal intercessory prayer," or PIP -when one or more people pray for someone in that person's presence and often with physical contact -- that was found by a team of doctors, scientists and religious experts to have remarkable results in healing some patients.

A team of medical doctors and scientists led by Indiana University professor of religion Candy Gunther Brown found in the study, conducted in rural Mozambique, that prayer brought "highly significant" improvements to hearing-impaired participants and significant changes to the visually impaired.

Fourteen hard-of-hearing and 11 visually impaired study participants were recruited at meetings of Pentecostal Christian groups in Mozambican villages and towns.

They were tested with a handheld audiometer or vision charts, depending on their impairment, before and after they took part in a

prayer session.
"There was a highly significant improvement in hearing across 18 ears of 11 subjects" and "significant visual improvements," says the study, which will be published next month in the peerreviewed Southern Medical Journal.

Two of the hard-of-hearing study participants were able to hear sounds 50 decibels lower after the prayer session and three of the visually impaired subjects saw their vision improve from 20/400 or worse to 20/80 or better.

The study focused on the clinical effects of prayer and did not attempt to explain how or why some participants saw such remarkable improvements.

"This study shows that in some instances there are measurable effects that can be demonstrated using clinical studies," Brown, whose interest in the study was to explore spiritual healing practices, told

"I consider this very much a first step and an indication of the direction for where research needs to head. Much more needs

to be found out about why these effects are noticed, what are the mechanisms, are there structural changes involved," she said.

"But one thing this study tells us is that a major reason that Pentacostalism is growing is the widespread perception that healing takes place."

The Pentacostals typically spent between one and 15 minutes administering PIP, but some spent an hour or more with a "patient."

"They placed their hands on the recipient's head and sometimes embraced the person in a hug" while praying softly out loud, according to the study.

The study focussed on hearing and visual conditions because they allow improvements to be objectively and easily measured, and are less susceptible to perceived or psychosomatic improvement than conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis.

Rural areas in Mozambique were chosen for the study because eyeglasses and hearing aids were not readily available there and Pentecostal groups who specialize in prayers for those with hearing and vision impairments were active there.

Brown and colleagues urged more studies "to assess whether PIP may be a useful adjunct to standard medical care for certain patients," especially in countries with limited care options.

"The implications ar tentially vast given World Health Organization estimates that 278 million people, 80 percent of whom live in developing countries, have moderate to profound hearing loss in both ears and 314 million people are visually impaired," the study says.

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After miscarriage, best to try again soon: study

PARIS (AFP) - Women who conceive within six months after a miscarriage have a better chance of a healthy pregnancy without complications compared to women who wait longer, according to a study released Friday.

They are less likely to have another miscarriage, and are also less likely to experience a caesarean section, deliver prematurely or have low-birth weight babies, the study showed.

The findings, published in the British Medical Journal, are likely to be controversial.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends that women who experience a miscarriage should wait at least six months before getting pregnant again, and other

Pumpkin seed

Whoever would have thought that there's a world of goodness locked up in the humble pumpkin seed?

The humble pumpkin seed is packed with vitamins and minerals. But these seeds are also loaded with calories.

How much to eat?

50 g of pumpkin seeds a day provides a third of an adult's zinc requirements. They should be eaten in moderation, however, as they are high in calories.

Key benefits

Pumpkin seeds support the function of the immune system, assists prostate health and helps lower cholesterol levels. They are also a useful source of omega 3 fatty acids and zinc.

Maximising the benefits

Once seeds have turned brown, they have become rancid and should not be eaten. Pumpkin seeds are best eaten as fresh as possible.

medical authorities suggest holding off even longer.

To get a clearer picture, researchers led by Sohinee Bhattacharya at the Aberdeen Maternity Hospital in Scotland reviewed the medical histories of more than 30,000 women in Scotland who had a miscarriage in their first pregnancy and then became pregnant again between 1981 and 2000.

"Our research shows that women who conceive within six months of an initial miscarriage have the best reproductive outcomes and the lowest complication rates in a subsequent pregnancy," they concluded.

"It is unnecessary for women to delay conception after a miscarriage."

The results held true even though the women who conceived within half-a-year were, on average, two years older than the women who waited at least 24 months.

Avenida Milo Croes

Differences in socioeconomic level did not affect the outcome.

The study pointed out that delays in getting pregnant were perhaps more of a issue in wealthy societies, where women often choose to wait until they are older to have

"Women over 35 are more likely to experience difficulties in conceiving and women aged 40 have a 30 percent chance of miscarriage, which rises to 50 percent in those aged 45 or more," the study noted.

An earlier study of more than 250,000 Latin American women found that an interval of six months or less between pregnancies was linked to a higher risk for the mother and the late-stage foetus or newborn, including maternal anaemia, low birth weight and premature delivery in the next pregnancy.

Des Your Child Have a Behavior Disorder?



When behavior goes beyond typical mischief or rebellion

Though bad behavior may be a typical phase of childhood, certain signs can indicate something more serious.

The U.S. National Library of Medicine says if any of these traits continue for longer than six months, a child may have a behavior disorder:

* Indicating that the child wants to hurt himself or herself, other people or animals.

- * Doing damage to property.
- * Stealing things or lying frequently.
- * Abusing drugs, alcohol or smoking.
- * Starting sexual activity at a young age.
- * Arguing often or throwing temper tantrums.

* Feeling hostile toward people in authority.

"Health is not valued till sickness comes."

Discover the Treasures Across the Bridge

Balashi
Pos Chiquito
Savaneta
Cura Cabai
San Nicolas



Entrance to the inner Bay of Spaan Lagoen



One of San Nicolas' main attractions, Charlie's Bar in the mainstreet

Crossing the Balashi Bridge to San Nicolas, you will find the Spaans Lagoen (Spanish Lagoon).

The Spaans Lagoen is the only inner bay in Aruba, resulting from rising sea levels after the last ice age. Spaans Lagoen is connected with the sea, but it is partially separated by a low-lying bridge. Located off the mouth of the lagoon there are several island keys, which together with the Spaans Lagoen area form a large natural ecological system.

Spaans Lagoen is a reefprotected area. The beach is accessed through the mangove trees in Mangel Halto, on the east side of the island. It boasts shallow waters and fine white sand. It's also an excellent spot to have a picnic lunch.

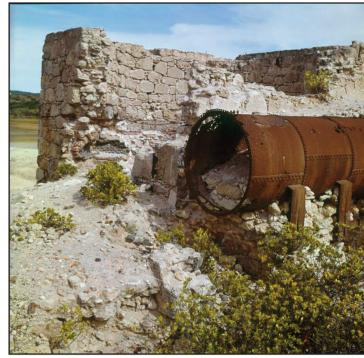
It is one of three Blue Flag beaches developing on the island. There is a gentle sandy entry to the water that is great for children and adults. Beginning scuba divers will love it and the snorkeling is excellent. It is also a wonderful area for kayaking. The Spaans Lagoen area flows into the village of **Pos Chiquito**.

Savaneta is a fishing village in southeastern Aruba. Home to the oldest surviving home in Aruba, it is the oldest town on that island and former capital. It was where the Dutch first settled after they recap-

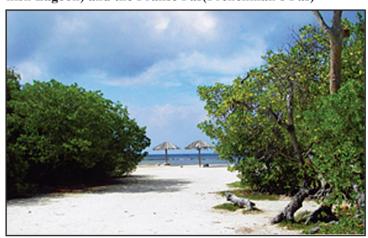
tured it in 1816. It is said that Savaneta name became during the Spanish colonization in 1840. Savaneta means Sabana chikito (small savannah).

Heading east to San Nicolas you will encounter **Cura Cabai** located along the west coast of the island.

Driving further you will find Aruba's second largest city, **San Nicolas**, with the majority of residents originally hailing from the British Caribbean. The development of the city is undeniably linked to the oil refinery, the presence of which often stands in sharp contrast to the modest houses of the area and the picturesque beach spots



The ruins of the gold smelter next to the Spaans Lagoen (Spanish Lagoon) and the Franse Pas(Frenchman's Pas)



Mangel Halto in Savaneta



House on the reef (Savaneta)



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Naomi's diamonds kept by Mandela aide



JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AFP) – An official at a Nelson Mandela charity said yesterday he kept suspected blood diamonds for over a decade, giving them to police only when supermodel Naomi Campbell testified at a war crimes trial.

Campbell's appearance Thursday at the trial of former Liberian dictator Charles Taylor set off speculation about the fate of the "blood diamond gift" Taylor allegedly gave her in 1997 after a celebrity dinner hosted by then South African president Nelson Mandela.

The supermodel told a court in The Hague how she received a pouch of rough diamonds as a late-night gift she assumed came from Taylor, who is charged with murder, rape and enslavement for his alleged role in the 1991-2001 civil war in Sierra Leone that claimed some 120,000 lives.

Campbell told judges she gave the stones to Jeremy Ratcliffe, then the chief executive of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, to "do something good with."

In a statement, Ratcliffe confirmed yesterday that he kept the three uncut diamonds and never gave them to the charity.

Campbell had wanted the fund to use them, but Ratcliffe said he did not want to involve the charity in any possible illegal activities.

"In the end I decided I should just keep them," he said, but added that he recently handed them over to South African authorities.

Police confirmed they received the stones on Thursday.

"In Counting" opens at Ateliers '80

Elvis Lopez, Director of the Aruban foundation for the advancement of culture, Ateliers '89, considers students have been very fortunate to enjoy a class by noted artist and teacher Randall Wallace over this past summer break.

Mr. Wallace, who has been part of the faculty of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas for the past ten years, described spending his summer on Aruba working with known and aspiring local artists as a "unique experience. The students most definitely had an investment in the process and worked very hard; we produced a remarkable amount of art in the time period allotted."

During the intensive one month workshop teacher and students focused on Randall's two particular mediums, sculpture and performance art. The official opening of the students' exposition, which took place Thursday evening, August 5, included a performance piece. The exhibition hall of Ateliers '89, located in Oranjestad, will continue to show their work Mondays though Fridays until the finish of the next workshop.

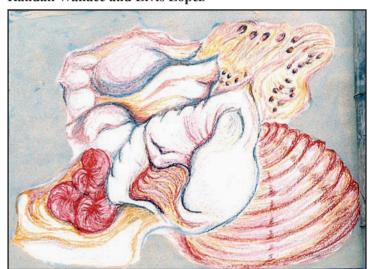
Students began the course by working in charcoal on the concept of illustrating something they had lost; an object, an aspect of their character, someone of significance, but something they felt had an effect on them. The workshop than segued into using color and textures to symbolize something found. The intellectual exercise assisted the artists in deep self examination and then using those emotions to create a powerful physical and artistic expression.

Most of the work produced incorporated refuse and rejected items; "recycled art," in a sense. The exposition not only includes individual works, but a number of imaginative collaborative items. Participants in this workshop include Ingrid Werleman, Natusha Croes, Vera Croes, Lupita Bernabella, Jeernis Geertruida, Megan Royer, Renzo di Bono, Nuris Lampe, Peter Curet, Pricilla Lacle, Aura Wilming, Cyrela de Mey, David Winklaar, Mena Dirks, Anjo Rotterveel, Maureen Woei and Fecundo Franken.

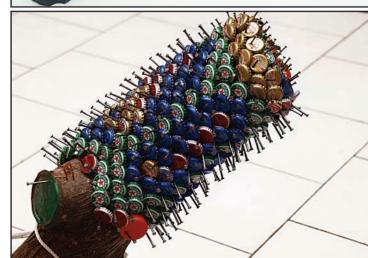
"This workshop counts as likely the largest classe I have ever taught," commented Mr. Wallace. "Several of the students have participated in past workshops. I thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere, it was very relaxed, quite different then the tension I feel from most of my college students, who are juggling several classes and feel the pressure to



Randall Wallace and Elvis Lopez







make grades. Despite the relaxed atmosphere here, the students were very serious and industrious. It was a great experience. My time on Aruba has truly energized me to return to Texas to begin a new school year," he concluded.

by Rosalie Klein

PICKLES





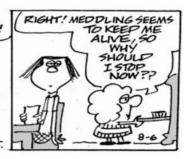




MOMMA







CALVIN and HOBBES









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ACROSS

- 1. College figure
- 5. Aid
- 9. Tribe
- 13. Possess
- 14. Worship
- 16. Pope's place
- 17. Upon
- 18. Dressed to the . 19. War god
- 20. Gen., Exod.,
- etc.: 3 wds.
- 23. Deli bread
- 24. Gel 25. Boxed
- 28. Capacities
- 32. Race unit

- 33. List part
- 37. Carter et al. 39. Between
 - 2 Chron. and Esther: 3 wds.
- 43. Dams
- 44. Rational
- 45. Eggs
- 46. Blackboard 48. So happy
- 51. Knock
- 53. Pat lightly 54. Josh., Judg.,
- etc., are -: 2 wds.
- 63. Con
- 64. Rent
- 65. Rose's love

- 66. Check over

- 70. Literary

- cry
- 2 wds.
- 7. Isolated
- 8. Iron
- 9. Study hard 10.
- tales
- 13 16 17 19 20 23 32 33 39 53 60 65 66 68 69

- 67. Pigpens
- 68. Ceremony
- 69. Section
- collections
- 71. Bambi, e.g.

DOWN

- 1. Gab
- 2. Pledge 3. Reveler's
- 4. Exile
- 5. Submitted:
- 6. Change copy

- Native

- 11. Prayer ending
- 12. Aerie
- 15. Chem. salt
- 21. Caustic stuff
- 22. Make
- amends
- 25. Yarn
- unit
- 26. Destroys 27. IRS month
- 29. Moon
- vehicle
- 30. T.S.
- 31. Bonded one
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- queen 36. Males
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- 40. Parseghian 41. Houston
- player 42. Uncaring
- 47. English
- counts Chem. class locale
- 50. All -52. Religious
- statue 54. Fastener
- Ola Peruvian
- Twinkler 57. Color
- 58. First
- murderer 59. Sailing
- 60. Theater
- award 61. Wind
- toy 62. Oracle

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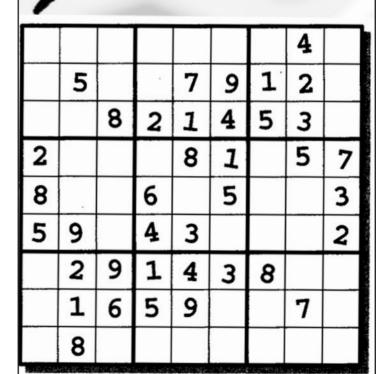
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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must

contain the numbers 1 through 9

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YESTERDAY'S **Crossword Answer**

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US insurer AIG reports \$2.66 bln quarterly loss

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Ailing US insurance giant AIG vesterday said it swung to a 2.66-billion-dollar loss in the second quarter, hurt mostly by the impending sale of a key foreign business unit.

American International Group, which was rescued from collapse by the government during the financial crisis, said the loss was primarily due to a 3.3-billion dollar "non-cash goodwill impairment charge" linked to the sale of Alico, AIG's second-largest foreign life-insurance business.

AIG had agreed to sell

Alico to MetLife, the largest US life insurer, for about 15.5 billion dollars earlier this year as part of a major restructuring exercise aimed at repaying the taxpayer bailout.

Excluding the writedown, AIG said it made a better-thanexpected adjusted net income of 1.34 billion dollars or 1.99 dollars per share, from 1.14 billion dollars or 1.17 dollars per share a year earlier.

Most analysts had expected a net income of 99 cents per share

AIG shares on Wall Street rose 1.30 percent to 40.42 dol-

The secret to becoming THE ANSWER to your customer's needs, so they buy from you again and again

by Ken Varga



Hi, I am Ken Varga. I want to share with you some of the ideas, strategies, and principles that allowed me to build 35 businesses during my career.

By earnestly applying the ideas, you will learn how you too can build your business to success, while living an unhurried life, filled with family, friends, fun and a relaxed atti-

In this Tip I'm going to write about a concept that when a potential customer is looking for a specific product, your company comes to their

The concept is the "USP".

USP is an abbreviation that stands for Unique Selling Proposition. It simply means: your company offers your prospective customer a unique or distinctive benefit or advantage, above and beyond that of your competitor.

Our goal (you and I), with these marketing tips and everything else I write about and make available to you, is to make your business distinctive and unique in the mind of the

The USP is a way for the

potential customer, or present customer, to see your business as offering them a superior benefit or advantage, that no other competitor offers them. It is something very valuable, very desirable, very important, very precious and meaningful to them that is not available to them anywhere else.

That's what the heart of the Unique Selling Proposition is

When I go to neighborhood parties or network gatherings, I get into a lot of conversations with business owners and professionals.

I ask them a simple ques-

Can you tell me why your customers or clients buy from you instead of your competi-

And guess what? Most of them don't really know the an-

Let me make a very important point here.

If you don't know the answer to that question, it means one of two things: either: (1) you offer a customer a unique set of advantages or benefits, but you've never identified them yourself, or (2) you don't offer that customer an advantage or benefit and you're just lucky to be in business in the first place.

Trust me when I say this... if (2) is your answer, then you will constantly be losing customers to your competition.

Anytime your competition wants to offer your customer an advantage you don't offer, they can take that customer

away from you.

The reason I charge \$5,000/ hour when I do consulting work, is that I produce, and what I do produce is that Unique Selling Proposition, because then I get most of the customers from the competition.

I want to help you determine the most powerful advantage or benefit you can possibly offer a current or potential customer, so that it will be irrational for your customer to chose anyone but your business to deal with in the future.

Sound exciting?

Here's how you do it...

You identify what advantage, benefit, result, or protection your customer wants the

You identify what they're not getting from potential competitors and what they're not getting from you.

And guess what? YOU offer it to them.

You don't just offer it to them quietly. You incorporate the fact that you are now offering them this unique advantage or benefit in everything you say, everything you do, and everything you print.

Well that's it for this Tip. In the next Tip, I'll continue on this concept and give you a few examples.

To your success,

Ken Varga

Ph: 888-682-2596; Fax: 888-

Email: ken@kenvarga.com Website: www.kenvarga.com

US suffers steeper-than-expected job losses

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US economy shed more jobs than expected in July, the Labor Department said yesterday, heightening fears that the world's largest economy will take years to fully recover from a crippling recession.

Some 131,000 jobs were lost and the unemployment rate remained stuck at 9.5 percent, the department said, as federal and local government slashed jobs.

The private sector was unable to offset a massive government layoff of 143,000 census-takers, with firms creating a modest 71,000 jobs in the month.

The figures were seen as yet another sign that the US economic recovery is stagnating, and that the jobs market may take years to get back on

"The current pace of employment is too slow to replace the more than eight million jobs lost in the recession -- not in the next year or two, perhaps even not in the next five years," said Bart van Ark, chief economist of The Conference Board, a business research firm. "It's unlikely that industries such as construction and manufacturing will ever return to pre-recession employment levels."

Revisions to June figures also compounded fears, with the Labor Department saying 221,000 jobs had been lost versus the 125,000 earlier reported.

That piled pressure on President Barack Obama to prove his economic policies are

Ahead of November midterm elections Obama's Republican opponents leaped on the data as evidence that massive economic stimulus spending had not worked.

Analysts had predicted the ranks of working Americans would shrink by around 87,000 in July, helping to push the unemployment rate up to 9.6 per-

For months investors have anxiously awaited any clue of where the economy is headed, with data frequently providing a confused snap shot.

That trend appears to have continued, leaving policy makers -- including Obama -- facing tough choices about whether new crisis measures are needed.

For snacking, sports events and fun! Buster's Garage in South Beach Center









Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and found a new home at the South

Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the per-

fect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellowpages-aruba. com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it -but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."

Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during playoffs and championships, they regularly carry all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and residents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 am., weekends at 4:00 a.m.

by Rosalie Klein



Customized and unique jewelry to be found at Gold Palace



Among Aruba's many jewelers, Gold Palace, located just across from the Oranjestad Bus Terminal, offers singular services and excellent value; definitely worth a trip to town. A visit to the shop resulted in some interesting finds, as well as quick and affordable repair to a ring of extreme sentimental value.

"Blue diamonds are all the rage now," we were informed by sales representative Stephanie, who showed us a large selection of attractive pieces where this stunning azure stone is cleverly deployed. The shop carries a vast inventory of precious and semi-precious jewelry, along with Nobel Watches, one of which was awarded to President Barak Obama when he received their namesake prize.

"Having a resident artisan on staff gives us great flexibility in pleasing our clients," explained owner K.P, who will usually be found on duty in town or their La Hacienda branch in Palm Beach, with his wife Neelam. "We opened our first shop on Aruba 22 years ago, and are proud to say we have a substantial regular clientele who have also recommended us and made our shop a success."

Aside from carrying all the fashionable trends in jewelry



from Italy and Israel, Gold Palace is also stocked with unique, one-of-a-kind pieces of their own design, and can create for their customers a particular work of art to meet a special need, or replace something lost that has significance. "If they bring in a picture or drawing explaining what they are looking for, we can make it to order," K.P. pointed out. This also means they carry a large inventory of precious and semi-precious stones to replace what may have been lost from a beloved necklace or ring, as was our case.

"We guarantee our jewelry, and maintain a working relationship with 16 outlets in the U.S., which can effect repairs for our clients," we were informed by the staff. "Pleasing our customers and keeping them coming back year after year is our greatest source of pride."

by Rosalie Klein

Get ready to experience an adrenaline rush like no other

Kite Surfing is an absolute thrill and the latest in extreme sports...



Kite surfing or kiteboarding is a surface water sport that uses the wind to pull a rider through the water on a small surfboard or a kiteboard (similar to a wakeboard). Generally kiteboarding refers to a style of riding known as freestyle or wake-style, whereas kitesurfing is more "wave-riding" oriented. These two styles usually require different boards and specific performance kites.

A kitesurfer or kiteboarder uses a board with or without foot-straps or bindings, combined with the power of a large controllable kite to propel the rider and the board across the water. In 2006, the number of kitesurfers has been estimated at around

150,000 to 210,000, with 114,465 inflatable kites sold that same year.

The sport is becoming safer due to innovations in kite design, safety release systems, and instructions. Riding styles have evolved to suit riders and conditions, such as wakestyle, waveriding, freestyle, freeride, jumping, and cruising.

Kitesurfing started on the island in 1998. Armando Wester, a professional windsurfer and certified instructor, and his buddies were the first ones to introduce Kitesurfing to the island of Aruba.

Since then, they have gotten more than 5,000 visitors and locals hooked on this new adrenaline rush sport.

Their years of experience, the trade winds on the island, the beautiful Caribbean Sea and the latest equipment make it an ideal and safe place for anyone to learn to kite. Kitesurfing is a hybrid of wakeboarding, hand-gliding and windsurfing for a radical new approach of kite

Anyone between the ages of 8 and 77 can enjoy this

So don't hesitate to call Armando or visit him at the Fisherman's huts, just north of the Aruba Marriott Resort, and see for yourself what an exhilarating rush this sport

Lessons start daily at 9 a.m., 12 noon or 3 p.m.



Robbie Williams to marry US actress this weekend: report

LONDON (AFP) - British pop star Robbie Williams will marry his US actress girlfriend this weekend on an island off the California coast, a newspaper said Friday.

The singer, 36 -- who recently rejoined British band Take That -- is to tie the knot with Ayda Field, 31, in an intimate ceremony on Saturday, Britain's Sun newspaper said.

The couple had kept the wedding a close secret and only told family and friends last week, said the report. The ceremony will take place on the island of Santa Catalina, 20 miles (32 kilometres) off Los Angeles.

In 1995, Williams parted company with Take That, a boy band which dominated the

British pop scene in the 1990s. and had a string of romances with fellow pop stars and Hollywood actresses as he pursued a successful solo career.

But the pop star has calmed down since meeting Field in 2006, and he popped the question to her last November live on an Australian radio show.

Wedding guests have been told to assemble early Saturday at a small port and will then be ferried to the island, said the Sun.

A source told the paper: "They have tried to keep the guest list for the wedding as small as possible and have revealed only scant detail of the ceremony to the lucky few who are invited."

Philippine leader grumbles over tiny residence

MANILA, The Philippines (AFP) - New Philippine President Benigno Aquino on Friday groused over the spartan feel of his chosen official residence, likening it to a "prison"

The 50 year-old bachelor said he moved Thursday into the optimistically named "Dream House", a small bungalow that had been used by special guests of previous presidents, after rejecting the nearby Malacanang palace as too big.

"It felt like being in a prison cell," said Aquino, who comes from a wealthy background.

"If I had the choice I would rather be at Times," he said, referring to his old Times Street address in northern Manila.

His official one-bedroom house is located inside the headquarters of the presidential security force.



This undated handout photo shows a general view of the main entrance of the "Bahay Pangarap" (Dream House) inside the compound of the Presidential Security Group

cross the polluted and foulsmelling Pasig River to reach

He now uses a boat to his office at Malacanang palace, just five minutes

Aguino had commuted to work in the first five weeks of his presidency, causing consternation among his bodyguards by insisting his convoy stop at red traffic lights just like ordinary motorists.

"I moved to (Dream House) to lessen their stress levels," Aquino said.

"My security people are concerned over my pre-dictable route."

The guest house was remodelled after Aquino won the May 2010 elections to accommodate two members of his household staff and to enhance security.

Aquino said it would take him time to adjust to his new quarters, admitting he only fell asleep well past midnight.

"When the lights are off I have a hard time finding the switches," he said.

Meanwhile, Aquino said he used his entire first pay cheque of 63,002 pesos (1,400 dollars) after taxes to pay off his mobile phone bill for July.

Gay condemns Bolt to first defeat in two years



USA's Tyson Gay wins the men's 100 m final ahead of Jamaica's Usain Bolt at the IAAF Diamond League at the Stockholm Olympic Stadium in Stockholm

STOCKHOLM (AFP) -World record holder and Olympic champion Usain Bolt crashed to his first defeat in two years on Friday when America's Tyson Gay won their eagerly-awaited 100m clash at the Diamond League meeting.

Gay clocked 9.84sec to edge Bolt, who was second in 9.97sec, while Trinidad's Richard Thompson took third in 10.10sec.

"It feels great to beat Usain but deep down inside I know he is not 100 percent," said Gay, the second fastest man in the history of the event.

"I look forward to beating

him when he is 100 percent." Gay insisted that Bolt is still the man to catch.

"Usain knows what his limitations are. His goal this year was to go undefeated, not set world records. He has plenty left in the tank."

Bolt's last defeat came at the same Stockholm track in 2008 when Jamaican compatriot Asafa Powell took vic-

Since that loss, Bolt had enjoyed 14 successive wins, including the last time he clashed with Gay at the world championships in 2009.

Powell, the former world record holder, was also due to take part on Friday but was forced out with a groin injury.

"You can get beat any day. You have good days and bad days," said Bolt, who is still looking for sharpness following an Achilles injury earlier in the season.

"I still need to work on my strength. The first 10 metres tonight was crap. I had no power, no nothing. I have tried to work on it but it didn't work out tonight."

Bolt said two delays at the start had upset his rythym.

"I was ready but the two stand-ups annoyed me. But Tyson was in better shape than me and was better prepared," he said.

Caroline Nicolas of France clears a hurdle (160 cm) with her horse Nobylis during the international horse jumping 'Nations Cup' tournament in Bratislava on Friday. Belgium won the tournament ahead of Poland and France.



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Barcelona regret Arsenal's 'no' to Fabregas move



MADRID (AFP) - Barcelona said Friday they were disappointed at Arsenal's refusal to allow Cesc Fabregas to move back to the Nou Camp.

The Spain midfielder confirmed he would stay with the Gunners this season after the London club refused to counwhere he started out as a teenager even though Barca were willing to pay a reported 48 million dollars for his sig-

"Barcelona regret the decision of Arsenal FC to declare the player not for sale and their decision not to take into consideration the offers proposed. None of those offers, in any way, exceeded 40 million euros," the Catalan club said.

Fabregas, who is under contract at Arsenal until 2014, returned to training on Thursday after a lengthy break following Spain's victorious World Cup campaign.

He was greeted warmly by 10,000 Arsenal supporters at a members' day at the Emirates Stadium this week, with banners and chants making it clear how much they wanted tenance a move to the club the 23-year-old to stay.

LPGA books Florida finish for 2010 season

ORLANDO, Florida (AFP) – The season-ending 1.5 million-dollar LPGA Tour Championship will be staged December 2-5 at Grand Cypress Golf Club, the tour announced Thursday.

The event, featuring 120 players, will keep the format used last year when it was played in Houston, with a 36hole cut to the low 70 and ties and another cut to the low 30 and ties after 54 holes.

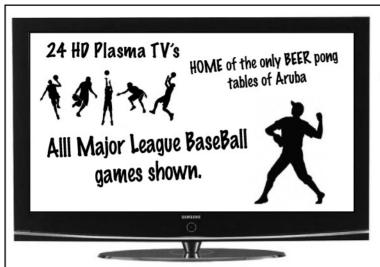
The course, designed by 18-time major champion Jack Nicklaus, has hosted six LPGA events, the most recent being the 2001 LPGA Classic won by South Korean star Se Ri Pak.

"We were committed to finding a premier golf course that would challenge the players and attract fans and we're thrilled to be back playing in Florida," LPGA commissioner Mike Whan said.

The LPGA staged three events in Florida in 2008 but had none last year as a tough economy and lost sponsors took a toll on the tour schedule.



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Tired top seed Berdych put to sleep by Malisse



Xavier Malisse of Belgium serves against Tomas Berdych of Czech Republic during their quarterfinal match

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Belgian Xavier Malisse upset Czech Tomas Berdych 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, ousting the Wimbledon runner-up from his first ATP event as a top seed on Friday to reach the semi-fi-

nals of the ATP Washington Classic.

Malisse, seeking his first title since 2007, will next face the winner of a later match between Spanish third seed Fernando Verdasco and

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eighth seed Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus at the 1.4 million-dollar hardcourt tournament.

"It just feels good to beat players like that. I played well consistently," Malisse said. "The third set is one of the best sets I've played. I hit the ball hard and won a lot of points with my serve."

Eighth-ranked Berdych struggled throughout his first tournament since losing his first Grand Slam final to Rafael Nadal at Wimbledon, but blamed the loss on starting only 10 hours after getting to sleep due to a Thursday rain delay.

Berdych, who also made a run to the French Open semifinals but has yet to win a 2010 title, was unhappy at filling the scheduled noon television slot.

Malisse, ranked 62nd, said he was tired too but dismissed the short turnaround as a factor in the match.

"It was tough. It was a quick one," Malisse said. "We finished about the same time. For both it was the same."

Berdych sent a backhand long to hand Malisse a break in the fourth game of the third set and the Belgian broke again in the last game, Berdych hitting a backhand long to end the match after two hours and 10 minutes.

Berdych surrendered breaks in the third and fifth games of the match to trail 4-1, the last coming on a video replay challenge that ruled a forehand landed beyond the baseline, and dropped the first set.

Malisse double faulted on the only break point of the second set to end the eighth game.

Former world number

three David Nalbandian, the 2002 Wimbledon runner-up who is playing in his first event since April due to a left hamstring injury, was set to face France's Gilles Simon in a later quarter-final.

Nalbandian helped advance Argentina into the Davis Cup semi-finals against France last month and has lost only nine games in three matches.

Simon beat US second seed Andy Roddick 6-3, 6-3 in the third round, ensuring the ninth-ranked American will tumble from the top 10 next week and that no US player reached the final eight at Washington for the first time

Next week will be the first time that no US man has been in the top 10 since the ranking system began in 1973, but Malisse sees no reason for panic.

NASCAR Heluva Good! Sour Cream Dips



Tony Stewart, drives the #14 Office Depot/Old Spice Chevrolet, during practice for the NASCAR Heluva Good! Sour Cream Dips. This week the Sprint Cup Series ends its 2010 road course sojourn with a trip to western New York and Watkins Glen International. Home of fine wines and fast cars, the track hosts this weekend's Heluva Good! Sour Cream Dips.

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Van Gaal: Dutch to blame for Robben injury

MUNICH (AFP) - Bayern Munich coach Louis van Gaal on Friday blamed poor management within the Dutch World Cup team for aggravating Arjen Robben's thigh injury which has ruled him out for another two months.

"The team (Dutch) doctor made a diagnosis and our doctor a different diagnosis. But our doctor is Professor Hans-Wilhelm Muller-Wohlfahrt, with a global reputation for muscular problems," said Van Gaal.

utation for muscular problems," said Van Gaal.

"Everyone wants to play the World Cup and to do everything possible to achieve this dream. I called Robben several times and I warned him ... We did everything we possibly could in Bayern."

possibly could in Bayern."
Robben, who inspired
Bayern to the domestic double as well as the Champions
League final last season, injured his left thigh before the
World Cup during a friendly
against Hungary on June 5.
He missed the first two

He missed the first two matches of the World Cup before returning to score two goals helping the Netherlands to the finals where they lost to Spain



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Woods struggles again as top spot grip loosens

AKRON (AFP) -Tiger Woods' hopes of preserving his five-year reign as world number one suffered another devastating blow on Friday.

Woods, once all but invincible at Firestone Country Club, looked a shadow of his former self with a second poor performance at the World Golf Championships Bridgestone Invitational.

After shooting four-over par 74 in Thursday's first round, his worst career score at a course where he has won seven times, the American superstar followed it up with an unimpressive 72 in benign morning conditions.



The Gary Player Cup

At six-over 146 for 36 holes, the defending champion was near the back of the field with half the players in the clubhouse at the 8.5 million-dollar event.

Woods refused to comment after emerging from the scoring trailer, instead walking straight to his nearby car for a quick getaway.

Woods, whose prior wins at Firestone came in runs from 1999-2001 and 2005-2007, has never finished lower than fourth at the WGC event but has not won any title since details of his adultery scandal surfaced last November.

After driving the ball well in his pre-

vious two starts, including the British Open at St Andrews, he was appalling off the tee this week.

Woods hit only five fairways on Thursday and was even worse on Friday, finding the short grass just three times.

Worse than that, most of his misses were very wide.

"Neither of us played very well," said England's Lee Westwood, who struggled playing alongside Woods. "We're all human. We all have bad days. What can you do? Cry?"

Woods' dismal performance suggests he is having trouble focusing on golf as he deals with his reported divorce from wife Elin and could renew calls for him to

reunite with coach Hank Haney after their split three months ago.

Woods faces the distinct possibility of surrendering his world number one ranking on Sunday.

World number two Phil Mickelson will take the top spot with a victory and can finish as low as fourth and become number one if Woods places 37th or worse.

Westwood, ranked third, also started the week with a theoretical chance of going to number one, but it won't happen after a 76 left the Englishman at seven-over 147.

South African Retief Goosen was the clubhouse leader at seven-under 133, one stroke ahead of American Justin Leonard.





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